Robert Frazier

To Dave Lifton from Harold Weisberg reur 12/23/79

See bcc at bottom

There is virtually nothing I can do until some time next week at the earliest but I will lend you the shirt slit picture. This will have to await the return of the young woman who is helping me and is rearranging the files, mostly for eventual transfer to Wisconsin and when there is time, to give me more room in my small office by removing what is not withinxx my presently planned work. She has removed those pictures and I have no idea where they are refiled, but I believe they are in the basement, where all the FBI materials are. When she returns next week first off we have a calendar call in the King case, which may require some preparation and willl take a day. Assuming no other emergencies she'll get on that as soon as she has refiled the horrible mess of records taken from the files for the two just completed affidavits in two FOIAcases on King and one vs GSA. I begin work on another after supper or in the a.m. That is the way it has been going lately. So please excuse the typos because I'll not have time to read nor correct this.

Where you refer to the weight of 399 as weighed by the Archives and as the Commission had it the difference is but 0.9 grains. I don't know how tiny the fragment that fell off is but Howard may know. I believe he is the one who discovered it. Thanks for the citations. When the present press is over I'll read those passages and perhaps can find some use for them in ongoing litigation.

The identification of the Serial relating to the Harper fragment can be os use only if the "'-53' after the number" is immediately after 62-109060. That would mean only 100 Serials to check. But if the - means the earlier numbers are missing, the work is too great unless I've made a separate copy for subject filing, as I may have.

The "photos made by Webb" part sounds familiar. It also suggests that this or a duplicate may be in or come from what is known as a "bulky," also "EBF" or "enclosure behind file."

With luck we'll be able to get to the searches next week, when I'll include this. I'm using a few pre-supper moments not to forget. I'll leave a carbon and your letter for this young woman when she has time.

If the "53" is final numbers unless I have a subject copy made if I'm to do any other searching a copy will be essential. Too many numbers can preceed it.

After you make the copies you want of the shirt slit pix please protect it with cardboard and return it. The original is with the copy for the book. The copy is an enlargement. I believe the origin is a contact print of a 4x5 negative. You may want more than one print because the publisher will require one and you may want to do as I have, file the backstopping with the ms.

How much attention are you giving to the Harper fragment, in case we have or come across more that can be relevant? After you phoned it seemed to me that I have Xeroxes of the photos but I'm by no means sure. Could be other evidence.

Sincerely,

bcc: when he phoned I suggested that he compare the present weight with that the WC used. He appears not to have done this and with him that can be trickery, so I'me not told him the obvious, that what Frazier cut off for lead testing of which he did not testify before theWC would seem to me to be heavier that 0.9 grain.This would mean that Frazier did not wiegh the specimen only as he received it and it would mean that no significant amlunt of metal was missing from 399 when it reached the Lab. Also, I find it hard to believe Frazier's deposition testimony , that he did xxx weigh the specimen on receipt, not after removal of the sample. But, if this is true what he removed has to weigh less than a grain.